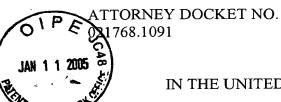
1



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

MINNING, et al.

Serial No.:

09/655,256

Filing Date:

September 5, 2000

Group Art Unit:

2134

Examiner:

Michael J. Simitoski

Title:

SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR SECURE DUAL

CHANNEL COMMUNICATION THROUGH A

FIREWALL

MAIL STOP _____

Commissioner for Patents

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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Name:

Candice R. Rockett

Date:

January 7, 2005

REQUEST FOR STATUS

Please advise the status of the above-identified patent application. An Amendment in response to the Office Action mailed May 7, 2004, was filed August 9, 2004. Applicants are currently awaiting an Office Action from Examiner Michael J. Simitoski.

If there are any matters that can be resolved through a telephone conference, please contact the undersigned attorney for Applicants at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted, BAKER BOTTS L.L.P. Attorneys for Applicants

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Date

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05073 021708.1091

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